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Message Text

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73
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-01 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

AGR-05 TAR-01 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

/084 W
---------- 045502
R 201720Z NOV 74
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7841
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 62
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USINT ALGIERS

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EEC, MO
SUBJECT: EC MEDITERRANEAN POLICY -- MOROCCO

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 8706; (B) RABAT 5599

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: TALKS BETWEEN THE EC AND MOROCCO LAST WEEK PRODUCED NO SURPRISES AND THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMISSION TO BE DEVELOPING FAVORABLY. THE MOROCCANS WANT CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS IN THE COMMUNITY'S OFFERS RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, RULES OF ORIGIN, FINANCIAL COOPERATION AND MANPOWER. THE EC MAY MAKE SOME MINOR ADDITIONAL CONCESSIONS BUT REALISTICALLY THE COMMISSION HAS ABOUT REACHED THE LIMITS OF ITS PRESENT NEGOTIATING MANDATE. THE MOROCCANS WILL RETURN FOR THE NEXT AND PROBABLY FINAL ROUND
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OF TALKS SOMETIME IN DECEMBER. A DRAFT TEXT WILL BE DRAWN

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UP IN THE MEANTIME. THE GENEAL VIEW FROM BRUSSELS IS
THAT ALTHOUGH SEVERAL ISSUES REMAIN, THEY ARE NOT LIKELY
TH PREVENT SIGNATURE OF A NEW ACCORD EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR.

2. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS: MOROCCO WANTS IMPROVEMENTS
UNDER THIS HEADING TO INCLUDE RETAINING ITS CURRENT
MARGIN OF PREFERENCE ON CITRUS EXPORTS TO THE EC IN
RELATION TO ITS COMPETITORS (SPAIN, ISRAEL). THEY ALSO
WANT MORE FAVORABLE ACCESS FOR EXPORTS OF MOROCCAN
TOMATOES, POTATOES AND CERTAIN CANNED FOODS INCLUDING
JUICES. COMMISSION SOURCES SEE LITTLE PROSPECT FOR
FURTHER EC ACCOMMODATION IN THIS SECTOR. A NEW DEVELOP-
MENT, HOWEVER, WAS A MOROCCAN REQQEST FOR CONCLUSION OF
A LONG-TERM CONTRACT FOR COMMERCIAL PURCHASES OF EC WHEAT
(5 MILLION TONS OVER 5 YEARS). WE ARE TOLD THE TUNISIANS
ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN A SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT.

3. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS: THE MOROCCANS MADE NO ADDIT-
IONAL DEMANDS UNDER THIS HEADING. AS IN THE TUNISIAN
TALKS THE QUESTION OF RECIPROCITY FOR EC EXPORTS WAS
AVOIDED--THE MOROCCANS WILL CONSULT WITH THEIR MAGHREB
COLLEAGUES AND WILL BE GUIDED BY THE RESULTS OF THE ACP
NEGOTIATIONS.

4. RULES OF ORIGIN: THE MOROCCANS COMPLAIN THAT PRO-
POSED MODIFICATIONS IN EC RULES OF ORIGIN DO NOT MEET
THEIR NEEDS. THEY WANT CERTAIN ADDITIONAL ADJUSTMENTS.
THE COMMISSION IS READY TO COMPROMISE ON THIS ISSUE
WE ARE TOLD.

5. FINANCIAL COOPERATION: LIKE TUNISIA (REFTEL) THE
MOROCCANS ARE NOT OVERLY IMPRESSED WITH CERTAIN ASPECTS
OF THE FINANCIAL COOPERATION PACKAGE AS IT NOW STANDS,
PARTICULARLY THAT PORTION DEALING WITH EUROPEAN IN-(
VESTMENT BANK ARRANGEMENTS. THEY WANT BETTER EIB TERMS
AS WELL AS IMPROVED PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRIVATE IN-
VESTMENT GUARANTEES. COMMISSION SOURCES ARE MOST
ADAMENT THAT NOTHING MORE CAN BE OFFERED UNDER THE
FINANCIAL COOPERATION SECTION.

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6. MANPOWER: THE MOROCCAN REQUEST FOR THE FREE TRANSFER
OF SOCIAL SECURITY ALLOWANCES FOR THOSE FAMILY MEMBERS
WHO ARE NOT RESIDING IN THE EC PARALLELS THAT OF THE
TUNISIANS AS WELL AS THE STAND THE ALGERIANS ARE EX-
PECTED TO TAKE WHEN THEY BEGIN THEIR TALKS (WHICH WE
ARE TOLD HAVE BEEN RESCHEDULED TO THE BEGINNING OF
DECEMBER). OUR COMMISSION SOURCE WAS QUITE DOUBTFUL
THAT THE COMMUNITY COULD DO MUCH ON THIS. HE DID

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SAY HOWEVER THAT IT HAD BEEN AGREED THAT THERE
WOULD BE AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH THE MEMBER STATES
TO SEE WHAT, IF ANYTHING, COULD BE DONE.MYERSON

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